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8 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**
9 **CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

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11 TOINESHA SWIM,

12 Plaintiff,

13 CASE NO. 5:22-cv-00546-JGB(SPx)

14 vs.
15 IC SYSTEM INC.,
16 Defendant.

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STIPULATED PROTECTIVE ORDER

Gordon Rees Scully Mansukhani, LLP
5 Park Plaza, Suite 1100
Irvine, CA 92614

1 1. INTRODUCTION

2 1.1 PURPOSES AND LIMITATIONS

3 Discovery in this action is likely to involve production of confidential,
4 proprietary, or private information for which special protection from public
5 disclosure and from use for any purpose other than prosecuting this litigation may
6 be warranted. Accordingly, the parties hereby stipulate to and petition the Court to
7 enter the following Stipulated Protective Order. The parties acknowledge that this
8 Order does not confer blanket protections on all disclosures or responses to
9 discovery and that the protection it affords from public disclosure and use extends
10 only to the limited information or items that are entitled to confidential treatment
11 under the applicable legal principles. The parties further acknowledge, as set forth
12 in Section 12.3, below, that this Stipulated Protective Order does not entitle them
13 to file confidential information under seal; Civil Local Rule 79-5 sets forth the
14 procedures that must be followed and the standards that will be applied when a
15 party seeks permission from the court to file material under seal.

16 1.2 GOOD CAUSE STATEMENT

17 This action is likely to involve trade secrets, personal identifying
18 information, financial, technical and/or proprietary information for which special
19 protection from public disclosure and from use for any purpose other than
20 prosecution of this action is warranted. Such confidential and proprietary materials
21 and information consist of, among other things, confidential business or financial
22 information, information regarding confidential business practices, or other
23 confidential research, development, or commercial information (including
24 information implicating privacy rights of third parties), information otherwise
25 generally unavailable to the public, or which may be privileged or otherwise
26 protected from disclosure under state or federal statutes, court rules, case decisions,
27 or common law. Accordingly, to expedite the flow of information, to facilitate the
28 prompt resolution of disputes over confidentiality of discovery materials, to

1 adequately protect information the parties are entitled to keep confidential, to
2 ensure that the parties are permitted reasonable necessary uses of such material in
3 preparation for and in the conduct of trial, to address their handling at the end of
4 the litigation, and serve the ends of justice, a protective order for such information
5 is justified in this matter. It is the intent of the parties that information will not be
6 designated as confidential for tactical reasons and that nothing be so designated
7 without a good faith belief that it has been maintained in a confidential, non-public
8 manner, and there is good cause why it should not be part of the public record of
9 this case.

10 2. DEFINITIONS

11 2.1 Action: *Toneisha Swim v. IC Systems, Inc.*, Case number: 5:22-cv-
12 00546-JGB(SPx).

13 2.2 Challenging Party: a Party or Non-Party that challenges the
14 designation of information or items under this Order.

15 2.3 “CONFIDENTIAL” Information or Items: information (regardless of
16 how it is generated, stored or maintained) or tangible things that qualify for
17 protection under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(c), and as specified above in
18 the Good Cause Statement.

19 2.4 Counsel: Outside Counsel of Record and House Counsel (as well as
20 their support staff).

21 2.5 Designating Party: a Party or Non-Party that designates information or
22 items that it produces in disclosures or in responses to discovery as
23 “CONFIDENTIAL.”

24 2.6 Disclosure or Discovery Material: all items or information, regardless
25 of the medium or manner in which it is generated, stored, or maintained (including,
26 among other things, testimony, transcripts, and tangible things), that are produced
27 or generated in disclosures or responses to discovery in this matter.

28 2.7 Expert: a person with specialized knowledge or experience in a matter

1 pertinent to the litigation who has been retained by a Party or its counsel to serve
2 as an expert witness or as a consultant in this Action.

3 2.8 House Counsel: attorneys who are employees of a party to this Action.
4 House Counsel does not include Outside Counsel of Record or any other outside
5 counsel.

6 2.9 Non-Party: any natural person, partnership, corporation, association,
7 or other legal entity not named as a Party to this action.

8 2.10 Outside Counsel of Record: attorneys who are not employees of a
9 party to this Action but are retained to represent or advise a party to this Action
10 and have appeared in this Action on behalf of that party or are affiliated with a law
11 firm which has appeared on behalf of that party, and includes support staff.

12 2.11 Party: any party to this Action, including all of its officers, directors,
13 employees, consultants, retained experts, and Outside Counsel of Record (and their
14 support staffs).

15 2.12 Producing Party: a Party or Non-Party that produces Disclosure or
16 Discovery Material in this Action.

17 2.13 Professional Vendors: persons or entities that provide litigation
18 support services (e.g., photocopying, videotaping, translating, preparing exhibits or
19 demonstrations, and organizing, storing, or retrieving data in any form or medium)
20 and their employees and subcontractors.

21 2.14 Protected Material: any Disclosure or Discovery Material that is
22 designated as “CONFIDENTIAL.”

23 2.15 Receiving Party: a Party that receives Disclosure or Discovery
24 Material from a Producing Party.

25 3. SCOPE

26 The protections conferred by this Stipulation and Order cover not only
27 Protected Material (as defined above), but also (1) any information copied or
28 extracted from Protected Material; (2) all copies, excerpts, summaries, or

1 compilations of Protected Material; and (3) any testimony, conversations, or
2 presentations by Parties or their Counsel that might reveal Protected Material.

3 Any use of Protected Material at trial will be governed by the orders of the
4 trial judge. This Order does not govern the use of Protected Material at trial.

5 **4. DURATION**

6 Even after final disposition of this litigation, the confidentiality obligations
7 imposed by this Order will remain in effect until a Designating Party agrees
8 otherwise in writing or a court order otherwise directs. Final disposition will be
9 deemed to be the later of (1) dismissal of all claims and defenses in this Action,
10 with or without prejudice; and (2) final judgment herein after the completion and
11 exhaustion of all appeals, rehearings, remands, trials, or reviews of this Action,
12 including the time limits for filing any motions or applications for extension of
13 time pursuant to applicable law.

14 **5. DESIGNATING PROTECTED MATERIAL**

15 **5.1 Exercise of Restraint and Care in Designating Material for Protection.**
16 Each Party or Non-Party that designates information or items for protection under
17 this Order must take care to limit any such designation to specific material that
18 qualifies under the appropriate standards. The Designating Party must designate for
19 protection only those parts of material, documents, items, or oral or written
20 communications that qualify so that other portions of the material, documents,
21 items, or communications for which protection is not warranted are not swept
22 unjustifiably within the ambit of this Order.

23 Mass, indiscriminate, or routinized designations are prohibited. Designations
24 that are shown to be clearly unjustified or that have been made for an improper
25 purpose (e.g., to unnecessarily encumber the case development process or to
26 impose unnecessary expenses and burdens on other parties) may expose the
27 Designating Party to sanctions.

1 If it comes to a Designating Party's attention that information or items that it
2 designated for protection do not qualify for protection, that Designating Party must
3 promptly notify all other Parties that it is withdrawing the inapplicable designation.

4 5.2 Manner and Timing of Designations. Except as otherwise provided in
5 this Order (see, e.g., second paragraph of section 5.2(a) below), or as otherwise
6 stipulated or ordered, Disclosure or Discovery Material that qualifies for protection
7 under this Order must be clearly so designated before the material is disclosed or
8 produced.

9 Designation in conformity with this Order requires:

10 (a) for information in documentary form (e.g., paper or electronic
11 documents, but excluding transcripts of depositions or other pretrial or trial
12 proceedings), that the Producing Party affix at a minimum, the legend
13 "CONFIDENTIAL" (hereinafter "CONFIDENTIAL legend"), to each page that
14 contains protected material. If only a portion or portions of the material on a page
15 qualifies for protection, the Producing Party also must clearly identify the
16 protected portion(s) (e.g., by making appropriate markings in the margins).

17 A Party or Non-Party that makes original documents available for inspection
18 need not designate them for protection until after the inspecting Party has indicated
19 which documents it would like copied and produced. During the inspection and
20 before the designation, all of the material made available for inspection will be
21 deemed "CONFIDENTIAL." After the inspecting Party has identified the
22 documents it wants copied and produced, the Producing Party must determine
23 which documents, or portions thereof, qualify for protection under this Order.
24 Then, before producing the specified documents, the Producing Party must affix
25 the "CONFIDENTIAL legend" to each page that contains Protected Material. If
26 only a portion or portions of the material on a page qualifies for protection, the
27 Producing Party also must clearly identify the protected portion(s) (e.g., by making
28 appropriate markings in the margins).

1 (b) for testimony given in depositions that the Designating Party identify
2 the Disclosure or Discovery Material on the record, before the close of the
3 deposition all protected testimony.

4 (c) for information produced in some form other than documentary and
5 for any other tangible items, that the Producing Party affix in a prominent place on
6 the exterior of the container or containers in which the information is stored the
7 legend "CONFIDENTIAL." If only a portion or portions of the information
8 warrants protection, the Producing Party, to the extent practicable, will identify the
9 protected portion(s).

10 5.3 Inadvertent Failures to Designate. If timely corrected, an inadvertent
11 failure to designate qualified information or items does not, standing alone, waive
12 the Designating Party's right to secure protection under this Order for such
13 material. Upon timely correction of a designation, the Receiving Party must make
14 reasonable efforts to assure that the material is treated in accordance with the
15 provisions of this Order.

16 6. CHALLENGING CONFIDENTIALITY DESIGNATIONS

17 6.1 Timing of Challenges. Any Party or Non-Party may challenge a
18 designation of confidentiality at any time that is consistent with the Court's
19 Scheduling Order.

20 6.2 Meet and Confer. The Challenging Party will initiate the dispute
21 resolution process under Local Rule 37.1 et seq.

22 6.3 The burden of persuasion in any such challenge proceeding will be on
23 the Designating Party. Frivolous challenges, and those made for an improper
24 purpose (e.g., to harass or impose unnecessary expenses and burdens on other
25 parties) may expose the Challenging Party to sanctions. Unless the Designating
26 Party has waived or withdrawn the confidentiality designation, all parties will
27 continue to afford the material in question the level of protection to which it is
28 entitled under the Producing Party's designation until the Court rules on the

1 challenge.

2 7. ACCESS TO AND USE OF PROTECTED MATERIAL

3 7.1 Basic Principles. A Receiving Party may use Protected Material that is
4 disclosed or produced by another Party or by a Non-Party in connection with this
5 Action only for prosecuting, defending, or attempting to settle this Action. Such
6 Protected Material may be disclosed only to the categories of persons and under
7 the conditions described in this Order. When the Action has been terminated, a
8 Receiving Party must comply with the provisions of section 13 below (FINAL
9 DISPOSITION).

10 Protected Material must be stored and maintained by a Receiving Party at a
11 location and in a secure manner that ensures that access is limited to the persons
12 authorized under this Order.

13 7.2 Disclosure of “CONFIDENTIAL” Information or Items. Unless
14 otherwise ordered by the court or permitted in writing by the Designating Party, a
15 Receiving Party may disclose any information or item designated
16 “CONFIDENTIAL” only to:

17 (a) the Receiving Party’s Outside Counsel of Record in this Action, as
18 well as employees of said Outside Counsel of Record to whom it is reasonably
19 necessary to disclose the information for this Action;

20 (b) the officers, directors, and employees (including House Counsel) of
21 the Receiving Party to whom disclosure is reasonably necessary for this Action;

22 (c) Experts (as defined in this Order) of the Receiving Party to whom
23 disclosure is reasonably necessary for this Action and who have signed the
24 “Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound” (Exhibit A);

25 (d) the Court and its personnel;

26 (e) court reporters and their staff;

27 (f) professional jury or trial consultants, mock jurors, and Professional
28 Vendors to whom disclosure is reasonably necessary for this Action and who have

1 signed the “Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound” (Exhibit A);

2 (g) the author or recipient of a document containing the information or a
3 custodian or other person who otherwise possessed or knew the information;

4 (h) during their depositions, witnesses, and attorneys for witnesses, in the
5 Action to whom disclosure is reasonably necessary provided: (1) the deposing
6 party requests that the witness sign the form attached as Exhibit A hereto; and (2)
7 they will not be permitted to keep any confidential information unless they sign the
8 “Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound” (Exhibit A), unless otherwise
9 agreed by the Designating Party or ordered by the court. Pages of transcribed
10 deposition testimony or exhibits to depositions that reveal Protected Material may
11 be separately bound by the court reporter and may not be disclosed to anyone
12 except as permitted under this Stipulated Protective Order; and

13 (i) any mediator or settlement officer, and their supporting personnel,
14 mutually agreed upon by any of the parties engaged in settlement discussions.

15 **PROTECTED MATERIAL SUBPOENAED OR ORDERED PRODUCED**
16 **IN OTHER LITIGATION**

17 If a Party is served with a subpoena or a court order issued in other litigation
18 that compels disclosure of any information or items designated in this Action as
19 “CONFIDENTIAL,” that Party must:

20 (a) promptly notify in writing the Designating Party. Such notification
21 will include a copy of the subpoena or court order;

22 (b) promptly notify in writing the party who caused the subpoena or order
23 to issue in the other litigation that some or all of the material covered by the
24 subpoena or order is subject to this Protective Order. Such notification will include
25 a copy of this Stipulated Protective Order; and

26 (c) cooperate with respect to all reasonable procedures sought to be
27 pursued by the Designating Party whose Protected Material may be affected.

If the Designating Party timely seeks a protective order, the Party served with the subpoena or court order will not produce any information designated in this action as “CONFIDENTIAL” before a determination by the court from which the subpoena or order issued, unless the Party has obtained the Designating Party’s permission. The Designating Party will bear the burden and expense of seeking protection in that court of its confidential material and nothing in these provisions should be construed as authorizing or encouraging a Receiving Party in this Action to disobey a lawful directive from another court.

**9. A NON-PARTY’S PROTECTED MATERIAL SOUGHT TO BE
PRODUCED IN THIS LITIGATION**

(a) The terms of this Order are applicable to information produced by a Non-Party in this Action and designated as “CONFIDENTIAL.” Such information produced by Non-Parties in connection with this litigation is protected by the remedies and relief provided by this Order. Nothing in these provisions should be construed as prohibiting a Non-Party from seeking additional protections.

(b) In the event that a Party is required, by a valid discovery request, to produce a Non-Party’s confidential information in its possession, and the Party is subject to an agreement with the Non-Party not to produce the Non-Party’s confidential information, then the Party will:

(1) promptly notify in writing the Requesting Party and the Non-Party that some or all of the information requested is subject to a confidentiality agreement with a Non-Party;

(2) promptly provide the Non-Party with a copy of the Stipulated Protective Order in this Action, the relevant discovery request(s), and a reasonably specific description of the information requested; and

(3) make the information requested available for inspection by the Non-Party, if requested.

(c) If the Non-Party fails to seek a protective order from this court within

1 14 days of receiving the notice and accompanying information, the Receiving
2 Party may produce the Non-Party's confidential information responsive to the
3 discovery request. If the Non-Party timely seeks a protective order, the Receiving
4 Party shall not produce any information in its possession or control that is subject
5 to the confidentiality agreement with the Non-Party before a determination by the
6 court. Absent a court order to the contrary, the Non-Party shall bear the burden and
7 expense of seeking protection in this court of its Protected Material.

8 10. **UNAUTHORIZED DISCLOSURE OF PROTECTED MATERIAL**

9 If a Receiving Party learns that, by inadvertence or otherwise, it has
10 disclosed Protected Material to any person or in any circumstance not authorized
11 under this Stipulated Protective Order, the Receiving Party must immediately (a)
12 notify in writing the Designating Party of the unauthorized disclosures, (b) use its
13 best efforts to retrieve all unauthorized copies of the Protected Material, (c) inform
14 the person or persons to whom unauthorized disclosures were made of all the terms
15 of this Order, and (d) request such person or persons to execute the
16 "Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound" that is attached hereto as Exhibit
17 A.

18 11. **INADVERTENT PRODUCTION OF PRIVILEGED OR OTHERWISE**
19 **PROTECTED MATERIAL**

20 When a Producing Party gives notice to Receiving Parties that certain
21 inadvertently produced material is subject to a claim of privilege or other
22 protection, the obligations of the Receiving Parties are those set forth in Federal
23 Rule of Civil Procedure 26(b)(5)(B). This provision is not intended to modify
24 whatever procedure may be established in an e-discovery order that provides for
25 production without prior privilege review. Pursuant to Federal Rule of Evidence
26 502(d) and (e), insofar as the parties reach an agreement on the effect of disclosure
27 of a communication or information covered by the attorney-client privilege or

1 work product protection, the parties may incorporate their agreement in the
2 stipulated protective order submitted to the court.

3 **12. MISCELLANEOUS**

4 12.1 Right to Further Relief. Nothing in this Order abridges the right of any
5 person to seek its modification by the Court in the future.

6 12.2 Right to Assert Other Objections. By stipulating to the entry of this
7 Protective Order no Party waives any right it otherwise would have to object to
8 disclosing or producing any information or item on any ground not addressed in
9 this Stipulated Protective Order. Similarly, no Party waives any right to object on
10 any ground to use in evidence of any of the material covered by this Protective
11 Order.

12 12.3 Filing Protected Material. A Party that seeks to file under seal any
13 Protected Material must comply with Civil Local Rule 79-5. Protected Material
14 may only be filed under seal pursuant to a court order authorizing the sealing of the
15 specific Protected Material at issue. If a Party's request to file Protected Material
16 under seal is denied by the court, then the Receiving Party may file the information
17 in the public record unless otherwise instructed by the court.

18 **13. FINAL DISPOSITION**

19 After the final disposition of this Action, as defined in paragraph 4, within
20 60 days of a written request by the Designating Party, each Receiving Party must
21 return all Protected Material to the Producing Party or destroy such material. As
22 used in this subdivision, "all Protected Material" includes all copies, abstracts,
23 compilations, summaries, and any other format reproducing or capturing any of the
24 Protected Material. Whether the Protected Material is returned or destroyed, the
25 Receiving Party must submit a written certification to the Producing Party (and, if
26 not the same person or entity, to the Designating Party) by the 60 day deadline that
27 (1) identifies (by category, where appropriate) all the Protected Material that was
28 returned or destroyed and (2) affirms that the Receiving Party has not retained any

1 copies, abstracts, compilations, summaries or any other format reproducing or
2 capturing any of the Protected Material. Notwithstanding this provision, Counsel
3 are entitled to retain an archival copy of all pleadings, motion papers, trial,
4 deposition, and hearing transcripts, legal memoranda, correspondence, deposition
5 and trial exhibits, expert reports, attorney work product, and consultant and expert
6 work product, even if such materials contain Protected Material. Any such archival
7 copies that contain or constitute Protected Material remain subject to this
8 Protective Order as set forth in Section 4 (DURATION).

9 14. Any willful violation of this Order may be punished by civil or criminal
10 contempt proceedings, financial or evidentiary sanctions, reference to disciplinary
11 authorities, or other appropriate action at the discretion of the Court.

12
13 IT IS SO STIPULATED, THROUGH COUNSEL OF RECORD.

14
15 Dated: July 19, 2022

SULAIMAN LAW GROUP, LTD.

16
17 By: s/ Bobby C. Walker
18 Bobby C. Walker
19 Attorney for Plaintiff
20 Toinesha Swim

21
22 Dated: July 19, 2022

GORDON REES SCULLY
MANSUKHANI, LLP

23
24 By: s/ Sean P. Flynn
25 Sean P. Flynn
26 Attorneys for Defendant
27 IC System Inc.

1 FOR GOOD CAUSE SHOWN, IT IS SO ORDERED.
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4 DATED: July 20, 2022



5 Hon. Sheri Pym
United States Magistrate Judge

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EXHIBIT A

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND AGREEMENT TO BE BOUND

I, _____ [print or type full name], of _____ [print or type full address], declare under penalty of perjury that I have read in its entirety and understand the Stipulated Protective Order that was issued by the United States District Court for the Central District of California on _____ [date] in the case of _____ **[insert formal case name and the numbers and initials assigned to it by the court]**. I agree to comply with and to be bound by all the terms of this Stipulated Protective Order and I understand and acknowledge that failure to so comply could expose me to sanctions and punishment in the nature of contempt. I solemnly promise that I will not disclose in any manner any information or item that is subject to this Stipulated Protective Order to any person or entity except in strict compliance with the provisions of this Order.

I further agree to submit to the jurisdiction of the United States District Court for the Central District of California for the purpose of enforcing the terms of this Stipulated Protective Order, even if such enforcement proceedings occur after termination of this action. I hereby appoint _____ [print or type full name] of _____ [print or type full address and telephone number] as my California agent for service of process in connection with this action or any proceedings related to enforcement of this Stipulated Protective Order.

Date: _____

City and State where signed: _____

Printed name:

Signature: